



Carbon Sequestration Program

Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

PUBLIC MEETING

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Fossil Energy

Date & Time

May 27, 2004
4:00-7:00 p.m.
Informal, informational
open house
7:00 p.m.
Public scoping meeting
(presentations by DOE
followed by opportunities
for public comment)

Location

Lions Gate Hotel,
Grand Ballroom A
5640 Dudley Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95652

Hotel phone:
(916) 643-6222

For hotel map and directions:
[www.lionsgatehotel.com/
Maps_Lionsgate.html](http://www.lionsgatehotel.com/Maps_Lionsgate.html)

Purpose

This scoping meeting will give interested parties the opportunity to raise issues to be addressed in an environmental impact statement (EIS) on the DOE Carbon Sequestration Program, which is under development.

Three areas to be covered by the EIS are: (1) the current state of greenhouse gases and their sources, (2) potential problems resulting from greenhouse gas emissions, and (3) the role of DOE's Carbon Sequestration Program in addressing the problems on both a national and global scale.

The programmatic EIS will evaluate the potential environmental impacts of implementing the DOE Carbon Sequestration Program in comparison with other reasonable alternatives.

How to Participate

Anyone is welcome to attend either portion of the meeting without advance notification. Attendees are not obligated to register or offer comments for the public record. Individuals wanting to speak during the public scoping portion of the meeting should register, either at the meeting or in advance by leaving a message on DOE's toll-free phone number for the carbon sequestration environmental impact statement, (877) 367-1521.

Public speakers will be called in the order in which they have registered, and will be asked to limit their remarks to 5 minutes. Following completion of comments by registered speakers, the meeting will be open for additional comments, after which speakers needing more than 5 minutes will be invited to complete their statements.

Comments will be recorded for the public record and made available in conjunction with the draft programmatic EIS. Written comments are also welcome.

For More Information

See DOE Office of Fossil Energy's Carbon Sequestration R&D website, fossil.energy.gov/programs/sequestration/, and the National Energy Technology Laboratory's Carbon Sequestration website, www.netl.doe.gov/coalpower/sequestration/index.html.

DOE Carbon Sequestration Program EIS Q&A:

What Is “Carbon Sequestration?”

Carbon sequestration involves capturing and permanently isolating carbon dioxide (CO₂) gases that could otherwise contribute to global climate change. Affordable and environmentally safe sequestration approaches could offer a way to stabilize atmospheric levels of CO₂ without requiring premature large-scale and potentially costly changes to the energy infrastructure.

What Is DOE Doing to Develop Carbon Sequestration Technology?

DOE's Carbon Sequestration Program currently includes several efforts:

- The Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum, an international ministerial-level panel that meets regularly to discuss the growing body of scientific research and emerging technologies and to plan joint projects for carbon sequestration.
- Regional Partnerships Program, a nationwide network of federal, state and private sector partnerships to determine the most suitable technologies, regulations, and infrastructure for future carbon capture, storage, and sequestration in different areas of the country.
- FutureGen - A full-scale demonstration project that will capture and store CO₂, making it the world's first coal-fueled prototype power plant to incorporate carbon sequestration technologies.
- Carbon Sequestration Core R&D Program, a portfolio of technologies that will capture and permanently store greenhouse gases.

What Does the Environmental Impact Statement Do?

The EIS will analyze the impacts of carbon sequestration technologies and potential future DOE demonstration activities programmatically, including CO₂ capture; sequestration (geologic, terrestrial, and oceanic); measurement, monitoring, and verification; and “breakthrough” concepts. It will not directly evaluate specific field demonstration projects. However, because the programmatic EIS will evaluate issues and impacts associated with regional carbon sequestration approaches, opportunities, and needs, findings from the EIS may be applicable to future site-specific projects within the DOE Carbon Sequestration Program, for which separate National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents would be prepared that tier from the programmatic EIS.

Why Is DOE Holding this Meeting?

DOE is preparing a programmatic Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, the Council on Environmental Quality NEPA regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] parts 1500-1508), and DOE NEPA regulations (10 CFR part 1021), to assess the potential environmental impacts from DOE's Carbon Sequestration Program. Acting Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy Mark Maddox states, “We’re offering this series of public meetings as a constructive step toward providing the foundation for future decisions about those options as they relate to future sequestration activities.”

What Will DOE Do with the Comments it Receives?

The comments received will become part of the public record for the EIS process and will be considered by DOE as it develops the draft programmatic environmental impact statement. The draft programmatic EIS will be published in 2005, and DOE will then solicit public comments on it at the same locations as this year’s meetings. The final programmatic EIS will be issued in 2006.

What if I Can’t Attend the Public Meeting?

The May 27th meeting in Sacramento is the only meeting this year in the Pacific region. Other meetings are being held in Columbus, OH; Chicago, IL; Houston, TX; Atlanta, GA; Bozeman, MT; and Grand Forks, ND. For more information, see www.netl.doe.gov/coalpower/sequestration/eis/meetings.html.

Written comments on the scope of the programmatic EIS may also be submitted to Heino Beckert, Ph.D., NEPA Document Manager for Carbon Sequestration PEIS, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory. Dr. Beckert’s e-mail address is heino.beckert@netl.doe.gov. His mailing address is 3610 Collins Ferry Road, P.O. Box 880, Morgantown, West Virginia, 26507. Comments must be received by June 25, 2004, to ensure consideration. Late comments will be considered to the extent practicable.